

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-41.(Canceled)

42.(previously presented) A method for providing a capacitor comprising the steps of:

providing a tantalum anode;

providing a cathode;

activating said anode and said cathode with an electrolyte comprising:

about 35-60%, by weight water;

about 10-55%, by weight organic solvent;

about 0.05 to 30%, by weight, at least one acid selected from sulphuric, boric acid and phosphorus oxy acid;

wherein said electrolyte has a pH below about 5 and a freezing point below about -30°C .

43.(previously presented) A method according to claim 42 wherein said acid comprises sulphuric acid and at least one acid selected from boric acid and phosphorus oxy acid.

44.(previously presented) A method according to claim 43 wherein said acid comprises sulphuric acid, boric acid and phosphorus oxy acid.

- 45.(previously presented) A method according to claim 44 wherein said electrolytic solution comprises: about 0.05 to 10%, by weight, sulphuric acid;
- about 0.05 to 10%, by weight, boric acid; and
- about 0.05 to 10%, by weight, phosphorus oxy acid.
- 46.(previously presented) A method according to claim 42 wherein said solvent is selected from a group consisting of glycerol, 1,3-propane diol; 2-methyl-1,3-propane diol; propylene glycol; polyethylene glycol monomethyl ether; N-alkyl-2-pyrrolidone and diethylene glycol.
- 47.(previously presented) A method according to claim 46 wherein said solvent is glycerol.
- 48.(previously presented) A method according to claim 46 wherein said solvent is 1,3-propane diol.
- 49.(previously presented) A method according to claim 46 wherein said solvent is 2-methyl-1,3-propane diol.
- 50.(previously presented) A method according to claim 46 wherein said solvent is propylene glycol.
- 51.(previously presented) A method according to claim 46 wherein said solvent is polyethylene glycol monomethyl ether.

52.(previously presented) A method according to claim 42 wherein said phosphorus oxy acid is orthophosphoric acid.

53.(previously presented) A method according to claim 42 wherein said phosphorus oxy acid is phosphorous acid.

54.(previously presented) A method according to claim 46 wherein said cathode is a conductive metal provided with a semiconductive or metal-like conductive coating.

55.(previously presented) A method according to claim 54 wherein said cathode is at least one element chosen from a group consisting of an oxide, a nitride, a carbide of a metal or an activated carbon.

56.(previously presented) A method according to claim 55 wherein said cathode comprises a metal selected from a group consisting of tantalum, titanium, nickel, iridium, platinum, palladium, gold, silver, cobalt, molybdenum, ruthenium, manganese, tungsten, iron, zirconium, hafnium, rhodium, vanadium, osmium and niobium.

57.(previously presented) A method according to claim 56 wherein when said acid comprises sulphuric acid, sufficient buffering material is added to raise the pH to a level sufficient to avoid dissolution of components of manufacture of said capacitor.

58.(previously presented) A method according to claim 54 wherein said cathode comprises a porous ruthenium oxide film provided on a titanium substrate.

59.(previously presented) A method according to claim 42 wherein said electrolyte has a pH
of less than about 4.

60.(previously presented) A capacitor prepared by the method according to claim 42.

61-64.(canceled)